BEFORE THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON, D.C.

Application of)		
US AIRWAYS, INC.)	Docket OST-02-13	855
to amend an exemption pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109 (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida – Cancun, Mexico))		
(Ft. Lauderdale, Florida – Cancun, Mexico))		

APPLICATION OF US AIRWAYS, INC. TO AMEND AN EXEMPTION (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida – Cancun, Mexico)

Communications with respect to this document should be sent to:

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(703) 872-5230

Counsel for US Airways, Inc.

February 27, 2004

NOTICE: If any party wishes to file an answer to this application, US Airways requests that such answers be due on or before March 13, 2004.

BEFORE THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON, D.C.

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APPLICATION OF US AIRWAYS, INC. TO AMEND AN EXEMPTION (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida – Cancun, Mexico)

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109 and Subpart C of the Department's Rules of Practice (14 C.F.R. Part 302), US Airways, Inc. ("US Airways") hereby applies to amend its current exemption in this docket so that it may operate scheduled foreign air transportation between Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and Cancun, Mexico. To the extent necessary, US Airways further requests a designation for such service, with flights beginning on or around July 17, 2004.

In support of this application, US Airways respectfully states as follows:

- 1. US Airways intends to inaugurate nonstop service from Ft. Lauderdale to Cancun, Mexico. This new service will complement existing US Airways service to Mexico (Cancun, Cozumel and Mexico City). In so doing, US Airways will bring the benefits of additional competition, new nonstop service, and additional on-line connecting options for consumers.
- 2. US Airways' proposed Ft. Lauderdale-Cancun service will also compete with flights to Cancun currently offered from other U.S. gateways, and FLL, by other carriers.

3. The extensive public benefits resulting from US Airways' proposed service clearly support an award of exemption authority here.

II. Required Showings.

- 4. US Airways is a Delaware corporation with its principal office at Crystal Park Four, 2345 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22227.
- 5. US Airways is a citizen of the United States within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. § 40102(a)(15)(C) and is fit, willing and able to serve Ft. Lauderdale-Cancun. US Airways holds various certificates of public convenience and exemption authorities. *See*, *e.g.*, DOT Order 97-7-2 (various foreign authorities); Notice of Action Taken, March 18, 2003 (Docket OST-03-14671) (FLL-BDA). Indeed, US Airways currently has exemption authority to serve Cancun from Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Boston, and Charlotte. *See* Notices of Action Taken, January 30, 2004 (PIT, CLT, PHL) & December 4, 2002 (BOS) (Docket OST-03-13855). Pursuant to Rule 24 of the Department's Rules of Practice, US Airways requests that the Department take official notice of all information previously filed to establish US Airways' fitness.
- 6. **Ft. Lauderdale (FLL) Cancun, Mexico (CUN).** US Airways plans to operate its service on a year-round basis commencing approximately July 17, 2004². For this service, US Airways plans to utilize Airbus A-319 aircraft, currently in its fleet, with 120-seats configured with 12F and 112Y seats.

US Airways' PHL/CLT/PIT-Cancun authority was recently renewed and consolidated into Docket OST-02-13855.

The initial service plan is for Saturday-only, but as traffic develops, US Airways anticipates adding additional frequencies.

DATED: February 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH K. LANIER

Executive Vice President - Corporate Affairs

and General Counsel

HOWARD KASS

Associate General Counsel

US Airways, Inc. 2345 Crystal Drive

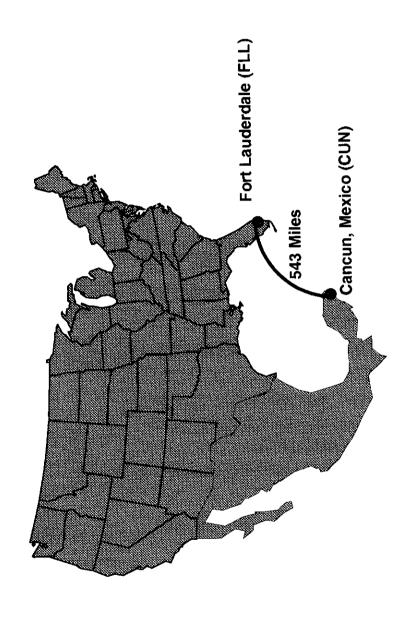
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US Airways' Proposed Fort Lauderdale - Cancun Route **Exhibit CUN-A**



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Exhibit CUN-B US Airways' Proposed Fort Lauderdale-Cancun Service

Annual Operating Statistics

ltem	FLL-CUN_
Equipment	A-319
Departures Performed 1/	102
Revenue Aircraft Miles (000) 2/	55
Available Seat Miles (000) 3/	6,641
Block Hours	161
Annual Fuel Consumed (000-gal)	131

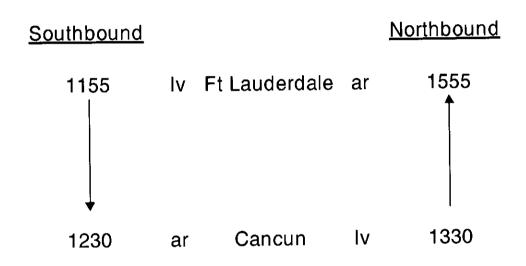
^{1/} Based on Saturday-only service and 98% performance factor for all items

^{2/} Based on 543 nonstop miles FLL-CUN

^{3/} Based on 120 seats (12F/108Y) for A-319

Exhibit CUN-B US Airways' Proposed Schedule for Fort Lauderdale-Cancun Service

Annual Schedule



Notes: All flights are Saturday-Only Aircraft type: A-319 (120 seats)

All times are local

Source: US Airways

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this day I served a copy of the Application of US Airways for an Exemption

(FLL-Cancun) by first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or by e-mail, on the following:

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DATED: February 27, 2004

Jamie Perrine

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